

TFW Discussion at the NEP Workshop (1/19/18 Draft)

Agenda Topic:

10:30 – 12:00 Making Trash Prevention a Priority in NEP Work Plans Bob Benson and Romell Nandi

Objective: Discuss the value of trash prevention as a core element of NEP water quality and habitat protection goals; discuss partnership opportunities to prevent aquatic trash pollution, starting with the Trash Free Waters program.

Sub-Agenda:

10:30 – 10:50 Integrating trash projects into NEP programs

Overview of TFW regional program work and integration efforts/opportunities in PPB (Bob).

Overview of how we are working with NEP partners so far (including funded pilot projects and MS4 work). (Romell)

[Mini-presentations by Bob and Romell, then open for plenary group discussion prompted by leading questions]

10:50 – 11:30 Panel discussion

Piscataqua – Example of stakeholder scoping and consensus process

Mobile Bay – Example of trash capture and assessment protocol?

Santa Monica – Example of public/private partnership with a business sector?

New York/New Jersey – Example of a multi-stakeholder source reduction project?

[10-minutes each max, then Q&A]

11:30 – 11:50 Plenary discussion of CCMP trash goal, drivers/barriers, leverage opportunities with upstream partners, EPA value-add support.

[Bob & Romell lead plenary with questions posed to the group; panelists remain on stage and are invited to comment]

Sample questions:

Testing our assumption – Is trash an important part of NEP water quality and habitat goals?

How do we make a convincing case for trash as a core element?

What are the key ‘drivers & barriers’ affecting NEPs’ ability to tackle trash problems?

What approaches seem to work well (including the pilot projects and others)?

Who are essential partners (both coastal and upstream) to plan, implement, and fund trash prevention efforts?

Can stormwater MS4 standards for trash be a major ‘driver’ of upstream actions?

What EPA value-add actions are essential for NEP success?

11:50 – 12:00 Final comments; review of next steps.